



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/802,883	03/18/2004	Yoshinori Yoshida	Q80489	5194

23373 7590 09/28/2005

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
2100 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W.
SUITE 800
WASHINGTON, DC 20037

EXAMINER

BISSETT, MELANIE D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

1711

DATE MAILED: 09/28/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/802,883

Applicant(s)

YOSHIDA ET AL.

Examiner

Melanie D. Bissett

Art Unit

1711

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 3/04.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

3. Claim 20 recites the limitation "the transporting member of claim 7" in line 3.

There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1-5, 7-11, 13, 16, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Skinner et al.

6. Skinner discloses curing resins comprising a reactive diluent, a polyol, and a polyisocyanate that are cured both by radiation and heat (abstract). Monofunctional reactive diluents include conventional acrylic monomers (col. 5 lines 36-43). The coatings are applied to substrates, thus suggesting backing layers (col. 9 lines 64-68). Since the reactants are the same as those claimed by the applicant and since the coatings are cured by heat and radiation to form interpenetrating networks, it is the

Art Unit: 1711

examiner's position that the coatings of the invention would possess the claimed initial elastic modulus properties. Regarding the method, the examples show that the polyurethane, polyols, and acrylate monomers are mixed together, coated, irradiated, and thermally cured (at least example 3). Since the polyol and isocyanate monomers would react upon mixing, the reference teaches the claimed process of reacting the components to form a mixture of a polyurethane and a vinyl monomer, coating the mixture, and irradiating the coating. The final thermal cure serves to fully cure the components. Regarding the "cleaning sheet for removing foreign matter adhering on a tip of a probe needle of a probe card" limitations, it is noted that this is an intended use for the sheet. It is the examiner's position that the coatings of the invention would be capable of wiping debris from a probe needle since it is a solid surface and more specifically because it contains the claimed materials.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 14-15, 17-18, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maekawa et al. in view of Skinner et al.

9. Maekawa discloses a member for cleaning a probe tip, where the member comprises a base plate, a first and second elastomer layer, and an abrasive layer

Art Unit: 1711

containing a binder polymer (abstract). The base plates are wafers [0069], and the first and second elastomer layers provide "sticking means" for the abrasive layer. The reference teaches that polyurethane resins are chosen for the binder resin because of their hardness and excellent sliding properties [0062-0063]. However, the reference does not disclose the claimed urethane resins containing vinyl polymers mixed therein. Skinner applies as above, teaching polyurethane coating resins that form improved tough and hard coatings on various substrates (abstract). The coatings are formed essentially free from solvent emission and are fully crosslinked (col. 2 lines 64-68). Thus, it would have been prima facie obvious to use the coatings of Skinner's invention as the binder resins of the Maekawa invention to provide hard, fully crosslinked coatings having improved toughness and solvent emission.

10. Claims 6 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maekawa et al. in view of Skinner et al. as applied to claims 14-15, 17-18, and 20 above, and further in view of Back et al.

11. The references apply as above, teaching backing layers and a wafer substrate but failing to teach pressure sensitive adhesives. Back discloses a method of cleaning a probe tip using a multi-layer adhesive and abrasive pad that is attached to a silicon wafer (abstract). Adhesive layers are applied onto the pad to provide simple attachment and removal of the abrasive pad to the wafer support [0024-0025]. Thus, it would have been prima facie obvious to use PSA layers in the inventions of Maekawa and Skinner to improve the attachment and removal of the abrasive pads to the wafers.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Melanie D. Bissett whose telephone number is (571) 272-1068. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Seidleck can be reached on (571) 272-1078. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Melanie D. Bissett
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 1711

mdb